



3754

PATENT
Attorney Docket No: BSC-165

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Haarala et al. CONFIRMATION NO.: 3578
SERIAL NO.: 09/838,618 GROUP NO.: 3754
FILING DATE: April 19, 2001 EXAMINER: P. Buechner
TITLE: Catheter Slit Valves

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this 20th day of September, 2002.


Diane Racicot

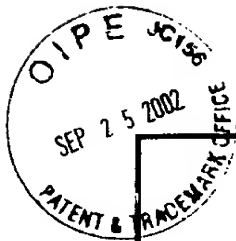
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith are:

1. Transmittal Form (1 pg.);
2. Response to Species Election Requirement (2 pgs.);
3. and return receipt postcard

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

Application Serial Number	09/838,618
Filing Date	April 19, 2001
First Named Inventor	Haarala
Group Art Unit	3754
Examiner Name	P. Buechner
Attorney Docket No.	BSC-165

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

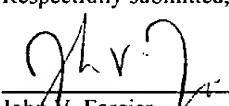
- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Species Election Requirement
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)
<input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets ____]
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1553)
<input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s)
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Respectfully submitted,

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S. Rothell
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PATENT
Atty. Docket No. BSC-165

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Election.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Haarala *et al.* CONFIRMATION NO.: 3578
SERIAL NUMBER: 09/838,618 GROUP NUMBER: 3754
FILING DATE: April 19, 2001 EXAMINER: P. Buechner
TITLE: Catheter Slit Valves

RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT

This paper is responsive to the Office Action, Paper No. 4, mailed from the Patent Office on August 20, 2002. The Office Action indicates that there are thirty-two patentably distinct species depicted in the figures and that no claim appears to be generic. A summary of the species follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. FIGS. 3A, 3B, 4A; | 17. FIGS. 19A-19B; |
| 2. FIGS. 5A-5B; | 18. FIGS. 20A-20B; |
| 3. FIGS. 6A-6B; | 19. FIGS. 21A-21B; |
| 4. FIGS. 7A-7B; | 20. FIGS. 22-24, 28; |
| 5. FIGS. 8A-8B; | 21. FIGS. 25-27; |
| 6. FIGS. 8C; | 22. FIGS. 29A; |
| 7. FIGS. 9A-9B; | 23. FIGS. 29B; |
| 8. FIGS. 10A-10B; | 24. FIGS. 29C; |
| 9. FIGS. 11; | 25. FIGS. 29D; |
| 10. FIGS. 12; | 26. FIGS. 30A-30B; |
| 11. FIGS. 13; | 27. FIGS. 31A-31B; |
| 12. FIGS. 14; | 28. FIGS. 32A-32B; |
| 13. FIGS. 15A-15C; | 29. FIGS. 33A-33B; |
| 14. FIGS. 16A-16B; | 30. FIGS. 34A-34B; |
| 15. FIGS. 17A-17B; | 31. FIGS. 35A-35C; |
| 16. FIGS. 18A-18B; | 32. FIGS. 36A-36D. |

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Applicants hereby elect species 26, as represented by FIGS. 30A-30B. Applicants submit that at least claims 1-5, 8-11, 14-16, 19, and 43-46 are readable on FIGS. 30A-30B.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that at least independent claim 1 is generic. Claim 1 is directed to a catheter slit valve, which is depicted generally in FIGS. 3A-3B, 4A, 5A-5B, 6A-6B, 7A-7B, 8A-8C, 9A-9B, 10A-10B, 11-14, 15A-15C, 16A-16B, 17A-17B, 18A-18B, 19A-19B, 20A-20B, 21A-21B, 22-28, 29A-29D, 30A-30B, 31A-318, 32A-32B, 33A-33B, 34A-34B, and 36A-36D. Applicants submit that FIGS. 35A-35C depict examples of catheter and cap assemblies that could be used with any of the catheter slit valves depicted in the aforementioned figures.

CONCLUSION

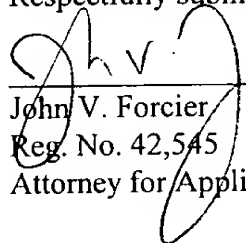
Applicants request entry of this response and allowance of claims 1-60 in due course.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any outstanding issues.

Date: September 20, 2002

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